

# DISC Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 8

September 2002



Take time to remember the heroes, and those who lost loved ones on 9/11/2001

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## **DISC NEWSLETTER**

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## An Information Periodical For DISC Employees

### Longevity Awards



Several DISC employees were honored for state employment longevity this month. The above picture does not include everyone receiving award pins. The following article lists everyone and the citation used at the ceremony.

#### 10 Years **Dallas Brown**

Dallas began his service with the department in Central Mail. He soon moved into Accounts and Reports Data Processing Section, preparing payroll data for submission to KIPPS. Following a promotion to computer operator in 1992, he continued supporting KIPPS. From 1995 to 1999, Dallas helped integrate computer operations for the new SHARP system in DISC's UNIX data center. Three years ago Dallas was promoted to a Computer Operation Supervisor.

#### **Cory Jager**

Cory has served all 10 years of

Service in DISC, first in our Bureau of Administrative Services in support of personnel administration. She was recently promoted to Public Service Administrator and coordinates work in DISC's Bureau of Telecommunications.

#### **Donna Luttjohann**

Donna began her career with the State of Kansas working for Kansas State University as a student and then in the library. Donna was involved with updating the first on-line catalog at KSU. In addition to serving as a data entry supervisor for the Department of Revenue, she also served for seven years as a secretary in the legislature to several committee chairs. Since 1997, Donna has served as a Network Control Technician, providing problem resolution services to State agencies. We often receive complimentary feedback from customers for Donna's IT skills and service.

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## EMPLOYEE INFO



### *Happy September Birthdays to:*

Kathy Cummings

Daniel Rethman

Kurt Dubach

Alex Bergquist

Lisa Brown

Jason Stewart

Jerry Rissen

Rowena Regier

David Spearman

Dwight Tolbert

Donna Lutjohann

Gary Pinger

Connie Stroud

Jennifer Sauer

Jodi Tritsch

Randy Drum

Chris Wempe

Tim Griffin

Sandra Lawrence

Debra Harrop

Dennis Smith

Frank Kosiba

Jerry Senne

Randy Taylor

Ivan Weichert

Toni Valdivia-Munoz

### **New Employees: Welcome To DISC!!!**

Carrie  
Harris  
BAS  
Started  
9/16/2002



Janet  
Starnes  
BAS  
Started  
8/25/2002



Mike  
Rodecap  
BOT  
Started  
7/22/2002



## **We Will Never Forget!!!**

## Andy Scharf's Retirement



**Representative  
Jim Morrison  
with Andy**

**Senator  
Feleciano  
says a few  
words  
about Andy**



**Senator  
Salmans and  
Andy**



**Don Heiman  
returns for  
Andy's Re-  
tirement  
Party**

## Longevity Awards Continued

### **Kelly Penn**

Kelly Penn began working for the State as a Temporary Office Assistant at KDHR. Over the years she has served as an Office Assistant at KDHE, the Parole Board, Highway Patrol and as a Secretary at KDOT. She served as Executive Secretary to the Director of DPS for three years, before being hired as an Applications Programmer Analyst at Department of Corrections. She is currently serving as an Information Resource Specialist in the Bureau of Customer Services DISC.

### **Todd Pettit**

Todd began his service part time with the Division of Accounts and Reports. After beginning full time as Office Assistant, Todd accepted a promotion to a Data Technician on third shift in A/R's Data Processing Section. Todd then served as a computer operator and joined DISC in 1995. Since then Todd has been a Computer Operator 3. He is a great asset to the third shift operators with his years of knowledge and experience. Todd and his wife Liz have been married for 11 years and have three daughters Grace, Sarah, and Amanda ages 4, 3, & 1. Todd is a avid golf player and has attended the several PGA tournaments.

### **Lee Ryan**

Lee Ryan began his employment with the Department of Administration in March 1992, working in DISC's Information Technology Center. One year later, Lee transferred to an IT support position in the Division of Architectural Service. This gave Lee the opportunity to use his degree in Architecture from Kansas State University as well as his computer skills. With the consolidation of Architectural Services and Facilities Management functions, Lee has returned to DISC where he has already made a significant contribution to the Department's Web development effort.

## **20 Years**

### **Shirley Perry**

Shirley began her State service with KNI and soon after moved to the Board of Healing Arts. She started her service with DISC in June of 1987. Since that time we have benefited from her hard work, dedication and conscientiousness. Shirley is currently the lead worker in the accounts receivable section. In addition, Shirley prepares and sends telecommunications billing statements to our customers. Her attention to detail, concern for customers and constant reliability is known throughout DISC and with her customers. When she isn't working at DISC, she spends much of her time with her two daughters Karla and Jill and husband Bill who works in A&R.

### **Dennis Sheets**

Dennis began his state service in 1981 as a Mail Distribution Clerk with Central Mail Services. Dennis has seen many changes in mail processing in his 20 years. I appreciate how you have adapted to these changes Dennis, helping us achieve the benefits of automation and the economies of scale associated with higher volumes of mail. Dennis is a history buff, and we use him as our trivia expert in the office. He has a great sense of humor and brings a lot of fun to the office. Dennis is an avid gardener and enjoys growing roses. (Dennis provided a beautiful bouquet of roses for the ceremony.)

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## Longevity Awards Continued

### Andy Scharf

Andy joined state service in the Office of Telecommunications, as a data communications engineer. Soon thereafter, he joined the planning unit in DISC to assist the Department with merging telecommunications with information systems. Andy's technical expertise coupled with his dedication to customer service have made him a natural leader for the implementation of many enhancements to telecommunication services. For the last 10 years, Andy has served as the Deputy Director for Telecommunications. Under his leadership the state has implemented KanWin, the video network serving telemedicine and distance learning, CJIS, and other significant changes for the state's telecommunications infrastructure.

### Christine Wempe

Chris began working for the State as a ward clerk at Topeka State Hospital. She moved to a clerical position at SRS, and later to the call center. She transferred to the DISC Network Control Center, where she eventually became the supervisor. Two years ago Chris moved to the DISC Customer Support Center, where she is currently employed as an Information Resource Specialist in the Application Support Unit.

### Loren Westerdale

Loren began his service with the State in June of 1982 as a Computer Operator 1, trainee working on the 2nd shift. He tells us he was hired "off the street" and his beginning salary was \$980 per month. He says, "I remember well". Loren learned technology very well during the next 6 years, and moved to technical support, initially on the MVS support team. In January of 1997, Loren was chosen to lead the Unix Support group. Loren's leadership has been a significant factor in DISC's services for open systems. Because of this, we asked him to provide leadership to the technical infrastructure team supporting the upgrade to PeopleSoft 8.0.

Loren is an avid Chiefs fan and we suspect he paints himself red on game days. If you pay close attention when the camera scans the "wild and crazy" fans, you might spot Loren. He also likes to go mudding in his Jeep and boating when the weather is nice.

## 30 Years

### Carey Brown

Carey started his career as the Assistant to the Director of the Wichita State Computing Center in December 1971 while a graduate student in the WSU Business School. He moved to KBI where he worked as a Systems Analyst, Supervisor of the Records, Identification and Communications Section and the agency Administrative Officer. He moved to DISC in January 1982 to be a EDP Policy and Systems Analyst. From 1987 to 1992 he worked in Purchases as a State Contracting Officer returning to DISC. In 1998 he moved to the Office of the Attorney General to be the CJIS Director. He returned to DISC (KITO) in April 2000 supporting architecture, project planning, and bid specification reviews. He has worked with or for all 11 DISC Directors to date, starting with Matt Marshall and Reuben Shepek in the early 1970s.

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## Longevity Awards Continued

### **Lawrence (Larry) Caldwell**

After graduating from Emporia State in May of 1970, Larry worked in the Kansas City area for CPA firms and in Springfield, MO as comptroller for a trucking company. In June 1972 he began State service with the Department of Revenue as a Revenue Auditor. Larry audited taxpayers for motor fuels tax and sales and use tax compliance in Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, and Oklahoma. The first year he drove approximately 40,000 miles in State cars. In November 1976 Larry transferred to the Department of Administration Division of A&R, Municipal Accounting Section (now the Municipal Services Team). From November 1976 to April 1980, he worked with the Social Security Unit helping to enforce the contract between the Social Security Administration and Kansas municipalities and their auditors reviewing municipal audits and budgets. He also assisted in budget training and preparation, and assisted in editing the Kansas Municipal Accountant's Bulletin. Larry has been with DISC since June 2000, supporting rate setting and budgeting in our fiscal unit.

### **Richard Escobar**

Richard began his career with the State at KDOT on Feb 2nd, 1971. 18 months later he joined the Operations group within DISC. Richard spent the next 27.5 years performing various tasks within Operations such as: operating tabulating equipment, computer operator, computer operations supervisor, and finally as computer operations manager. In 1999 Richard accepted a position within the OS/390 Technical support group where he installs and maintains numerous products running on the State's mainframe computer.

When Richard is not at work he enjoys playing Fast-pitch softball and attending KU football and basketball games. He is also very active in his church, Our Lady of Guadalupe, and has assisted with the Fiesta Mexicana celebration for many years. Richard and his wife Ana will be celebrating their 26th wedding anniversary on Sept. 11th, 2002 along with their twin sons, Marcus and Mathew who are currently attending college at KU.

### **Linda Schramek**

Linda has played a key role in supporting the Department's information systems. She began her career with the Department of Revenue and then moved to DofA first as a clerk typist. Linda was one of the early pioneers in creating the data control unit in the Division of Accounts and Reports and has tremendous knowledge in supporting STARS and SHARP. Since joining DISC in 1995, Linda has continued to provide strong leadership as a Computer Operations Supervisor, and was recently promoted to Computer Operations Manager. She is a consummate professional and highly respected.

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Meeting Our Customer's Needs

### Trivia Question:

Last month we answered the trivia question about our State Song "Home On The Range" was written by Brewster Higley. Our question this is on the same topic, but with a different twist.

How many verses have been written to "Home on The Range" ?

## IRS Warns of Identity, Financial Data Theft Scheme

I came across this warning in a U.S. Air Force retirement newsletter, and I have not seen it printed anywhere else.

The Internal Revenue Service recently warned of a fraudulent scheme that uses fictitious bank correspondence and IRS forms in an attempt to trick taxpayers into disclosing their personal and banking data.

The information obtained is then used to steal the taxpayer's identity and bank account deposits.

In this scam, a letter claiming to be from the taxpayer's bank states that the "bank" is updating its records in order to exempt the taxpayer from reporting interest or having tax withheld on interest paid on his or her bank accounts or other financial dealings.

The "bank" correspondence encloses a phony form that purports to come from the IRS and seeks detailed personal and financial data. The letter urges the recipient to fax the completed form to a specific number within seven days or lose the reporting and withholding exemption, resulting in withholding of 31 percent on the

account's interest. The scheme promoters then use the faxed information to impersonate the taxpayer and gain access to the taxpayer's finances.

The Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration investigates a wide variety of offenses, including the misuse of IRS insignia, seals and symbols and identity theft related to tax administration. Taxpayers who have received a fraudulent letter and form should report this to TIGTA by calling the toll-free fraud referral hotline at (800)366-4484, faxing a complaint to (202)927-7018 or writing to the TIGTA Hotline, P.O. Box 589, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, D.C. 20044-0589. TIGTA's Web site is located at [www.ustreas.gov/tigta](http://www.ustreas.gov/tigta).